

143, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 27, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 3, 2015.

Effective June 3, 2015.

**STATE SUPPORT FOR GENERAL ACADEMIC TEACHING
INSTITUTIONS IN THIS STATE**

CHAPTER 315

H.B. No. 1000

AN ACT

relating to state support for general academic teaching institutions in this state.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. The heading to Subchapter C, Chapter 62, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

**SUBCHAPTER C. TEXAS RESEARCH UNIVERSITY [~~COMPETITIVE~~
~~KNOWLEDGE~~] FUND**

SECTION 2. Sections 62.051(1) and (2), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(1) "Eligible institution" means an institution of higher education that[~~:~~

~~[(A)] is designated as a research university under the coordinating board's accountability system and, for any three consecutive state fiscal years beginning on or after September 1, 2010, made total annual research expenditures in an average annual amount of not less than \$450 million[~~;~~or~~

~~[(B)] is designated as an emerging research university under the coordinating board's accountability system and, for any three consecutive state fiscal years beginning on or after September 1, 2010, made total annual research expenditures in an average annual amount of not less than \$50 million].~~

(2) "Fund" means the Texas *research university* [~~competitive knowledge~~] fund.

SECTION 3. Section 62.052, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 62.052. PURPOSE. The purpose of this subchapter is to provide funding to eligible research universities [~~and emerging research universities~~] to support faculty to ensure excellence in instruction and research.

SECTION 4. Section 62.053, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 62.053. FUND. (a) The Texas *research university* [~~competitive knowledge~~] fund consists of money appropriated by the legislature *to eligible institutions* for the purposes of this subchapter [~~to eligible institutions~~].

(a-1) In each state fiscal year, amounts shall be appropriated to eligible institutions based on the average amount of total research funds expended by each institution per year for the three preceding state fiscal years.

(b) For purposes of this *subchapter* [~~section~~], the amount of total research funds expended by an eligible institution in a state fiscal year is the amount of those funds as reported to the coordinating board by the institution for that fiscal year, subject to any adjustment by the coordinating board in accordance with the standards and accounting methods the coordinating board prescribes for purposes of this section.

SECTION 5. The heading to Subchapter E, Chapter 62, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER E. TEXAS COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH ~~[DEVELOP-~~
MENT] FUND

SECTION 6. Section 62.091, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 62.091. PURPOSE. The *Texas comprehensive* research ~~[development]~~ fund is established to provide funding to promote increased research capacity at eligible general academic teaching institutions.

SECTION 7. Section 62.092, Education Code, is amended by amending Subdivision (2) and adding Subdivision (3) to read as follows:

(2) "Eligible institution" means a general academic teaching institution~~;~~ as defined by Section 61.003, other than:

(A) The University of Texas at Austin or Texas A&M University; or

(B) an institution of higher education described by Section 62.132(2).

(3) "Fund" means the *Texas comprehensive research fund*.

SECTION 8. Section 62.093, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 62.093. FUNDING ~~[ADMINISTRATION]~~. ~~[(a)]~~ The *Texas comprehensive* research ~~[development]~~ fund consists of money appropriated by the legislature to eligible institutions for the purposes of this subchapter ~~[is a fund outside the state treasury in the custody of the comptroller]~~.

~~[(b) The comptroller shall administer and invest the research development fund.]~~

SECTION 9. The heading to Section 62.095, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 62.095. APPROPRIATION ~~[APPORTIONMENT]~~ OF FUND TO ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS.

SECTION 10. Section 62.095(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In each state fiscal year, ~~amounts [the comptroller shall distribute the total amount of all assets in the research development fund to eligible institutions. The amount]~~ shall be appropriated to ~~[apportioned among the]~~ eligible institutions based on the average amount of restricted research funds expended by each institution per year for the three preceding state fiscal years.

SECTION 11. The heading to Section 62.096, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 62.096. VERIFICATION ~~[OF ALLOCATION FACTORS]~~.

SECTION 12. Sections 62.096(a) and (b), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) For purposes of this subchapter and Subchapter F-1, the coordinating board shall prescribe standards and accounting methods for determining the amount of restricted research funds expended ~~[by an eligible institution]~~ in a state fiscal year:

(1) under this subchapter by an eligible institution; or

(2) under Subchapter F-1 by an eligible institution, as that term is defined by Section 62.132(2).

(b) For purposes of this subchapter and Subchapter F-1, the ~~[The]~~ coordinating board shall convene a committee composed ~~[comprised]~~ of persons designated by the presidents of eligible institutions to approve the allocations standards and accounting methods established by the coordinating board and to consider appeals authorized by Subsection (e) or Section 62.135(b) ~~[by October 1, 2003]~~.

SECTION 13. Section 62.097, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 62.097. USE OF APPROPRIATED ~~[ALLOCATED]~~ AMOUNTS. (a) An eligible institution may use money received from the ~~[research development]~~ fund only for the support and maintenance of educational and general activities, including research and student services, that promote increased research capacity at the institution.

(b) Money received by an institution from the ~~[research-development]~~ fund in a fiscal year that is not used by the institution in that fiscal year may be held and used by the institution in subsequent fiscal years.

SECTION 14. Chapter 62, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter F-1 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER F-1. CORE RESEARCH SUPPORT FUND

Sec. 62.131. PURPOSE. The core research support fund is established to provide funding to promote increased research capacity at emerging research universities.

Sec. 62.132. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(2) "Eligible institution" means an institution of higher education that is designated as an emerging research university under the coordinating board's accountability system.

(3) "Fund" means the core research support fund.

Sec. 62.133. FUNDING. The core research support fund consists of money appropriated by the legislature to eligible institutions for the purposes of this subchapter.

Sec. 62.134. APPROPRIATION OF FUND TO ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS. In each state fiscal year, amounts shall be appropriated to eligible institutions as follows:

(1) 50 percent based on the average amount of restricted research funds expended by each institution per year for the three preceding state fiscal years, determined in the manner described by Section 62.095(b); and

(2) 50 percent based on the average amount of total research funds expended by each institution per year for the three preceding state fiscal years, determined in the manner described by Section 62.053(b).

Sec. 62.135. VERIFICATION. (a) The coordinating board may audit the appropriate records of an eligible institution to verify information for purposes of this subchapter.

(b) For final determination of eligibility, an eligible institution may appeal to the advisory committee described by Section 62.096 the coordinating board's decision regarding the institution's verified information relating to the amounts of restricted research expended.

Sec. 62.136. USE OF APPROPRIATED AMOUNTS. (a) An eligible institution may use money received from the fund only for the support and maintenance of educational and general activities, including research and student services, that promote increased research capacity at the institution.

(b) Money received by an institution from the fund in a fiscal year that is not used by the institution in that fiscal year may be held and used by the institution in subsequent fiscal years.

Sec. 62.137. ANNUAL REPORT. (a) Each eligible institution that receives money under this subchapter in a state fiscal year shall prepare a report at the end of that fiscal year describing the manner in which the institution used the money. The institution shall include in the report information regarding the use of money spent in that fiscal year that was received under this subchapter in a preceding fiscal year.

(b) The institution shall deliver a copy of the report to the coordinating board and the Legislative Budget Board not later than December 1 after the end of the fiscal year. The Legislative Budget Board may establish requirements for the form and content of the report.

(c) The institution shall include in the report information on the use or other disposition of money the institution previously received from the Texas excellence fund or the university research fund, if the institution spent money from either of those funds in the fiscal year of the report.

SECTION 15. Sections 62.0925 and 62.094, Education Code, are repealed.

SECTION 16. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on May 12, 2015: Yeas 125, Nays 15, 2 present, not voting;
passed by the Senate on May 27, 2015: Yeas 27, Nays 4.

Approved June 3, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.

**DESIGNATION OF A SEGMENT OF U.S. HIGHWAY 287 IN
MIDLOTHIAN AS THE CHRIS KYLE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY**

CHAPTER 316

H.B. No. 1187

AN ACT

**relating to the designation of a segment of U.S. Highway 287 in Midlothian as the
Chris Kyle Memorial Highway.**

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 225, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 225.102 to read as follows:

Sec. 225.102. CHRIS KYLE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) The portion of U.S. Highway 287 in Midlothian between its intersection with Rex Odom Drive and its intersection with Kimble Road is designated as the Chris Kyle Memorial Highway. The designation is in addition to any other designation.

(b) Subject to Section 225.021(c), the department shall:

(1) design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Chris Kyle Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and

(2) erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on May 8, 2015: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed
by the Senate on May 20, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 3, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.

**BLOCK SCHEDULING FOR CERTAIN ASSOCIATE DEGREE
AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC JUNIOR
COLLEGES**

CHAPTER 317

H.B. No. 1583

AN ACT

**relating to block scheduling for certain associate degree and certificate programs at
public junior colleges.**

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 130, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 130.0095 to read as follows:

Sec. 130.0095. BLOCK SCHEDULING FOR CERTAIN ASSOCIATE DEGREE OR